

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /121 W

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2834

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 0072

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB. POL

SUBJECT: POLISH PROTEST ON USE OF GERMAN PLACE NAMES
FOR FORMER GERMAN EASTERN TERRITORIES

REF: BERLIN 58

1. JANUARY 15 PRESS REPORTED THAT POLISH MILITARY MISSION IN WEST BERLIN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN RECENT WEEKS REFUSED VISAS TO PERSONS OF GERMAN NATIONALITY BORN IN FORMER GERMAN EASTERN TERRITORIES, WHOSE IDENTITY CARDS SHOWED GERMAN RATHER THAN PRESENT POLISH NAME OF BIRTHPLACE. DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION KOPA WAS REPORTED AS STATING THAT REFUSALS WERE CONSISTENT WITH ORAL FRG-POLISH AGREEMENT WORKED OUT IN RECENT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. (IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH MISSION OFFICERS, HOWEVER, KOPA DENIED THAT ANY VISAS REQUESTED HAD THUS FAR BEEN REFUSED.)

2. SENAT CHANCELLERY HEAD HERZ INFORMED MISSION OFFICER
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JANUARY 15 THAT KOPA HAD PROTESTED THIS USE OF GERMAN

PLACE NAMES DURING JANUARY 10 MEETING WITH GOVERNING
MAYOR, THUS FOLLOWING UP ON YEFREMOV'S JANUARY 8
STATEMENT TO SCHUETZ ON SUBJECT (REFTEL). HERZ SAID
THAT DIFFICULTY LAY IN FACT THAT POLICE HAD REISSUED
INSTRUCTION MANUAL ON PREPARATION OF IDENTITY CARDS
WITHOUT CONSULTING SENAT, WITH RESULT THAT MANUAL
DID NOT REFLECT RECENT FRG-POLISH AGREEMENT (TO WHICH
KOPA HAD ALLUDED) PROVIDING THAT GERMAN PLACE NAME
WOULD BE USED FOR PERSONS BORN WHILE EASTERN TERRITORIES
WERE STILL UNDER GERMAN JURISDICTION (POLISH NAME IN
PARENTHESIS), AND POLISH PLACE NAMES FOR PERSONS BORN AFTER
1945 (GERMAN NAME IN PARENTHESES). HERZ SAID THAT
THIS OMISSION WOULD BE RECTIFIED, AND THAT HE WAS
CONFIDENT THAT THE POLES WOULD ABIDE BY THE TERMS OF
THEIR UNDERSTANDING WITH THE FRG.KLEIN

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Type: TE
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